

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. to 6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for forming a pattern onto an article during an injection molding thereof, comprising:

feed means that feeds a pattern-bearing film to a molding position where a male mold and a female mold are opposed;

a heating board formed in a single line only and that heats said pattern-bearing film so as to soften it, said heating board having a heating surface and being movable into and away from a space between said male mold and said female mold;

transfer means that transfers said pattern-bearing film to an internal surface of said female mold so as to contact said pattern-bearing film with said internal surface;

closing means that causes said male mold and said female mold with said pattern-bearing film therein to approach each other to form a closed molding cavity; and

a resin injecting device that injects a molten resin into said cavity to form a molded article to adhere said pattern-bearing film to the surface of said article;

wherein (1) said heating board is formed in a single line only and is divided into a plurality of heating blocks, each of

Serial No. 09/865,589

said blocks independently controlling heat generated by the block, and

(2) said heating blocks are arranged in a vertical direction in one line only so that one heating block is disposed adjacently above another heating block, and

(3) said pattern-bearing film is sent from an upper position to a lower position along the vertical direction in one line.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein each of said blocks includes therein a heating wire and a temperature sensor for detecting the temperature of each block.

9. (Canceled)